Research on the Antioxidant Components of EM-X and the Mechanisms of Action

Nobuyuki Sato^{a)}, Teruo Higa^{b)}

a)College of Global Environmental Sciences, Interdisciplinary Innovation, IOND University, Hawaii USA b)College of Agriculture, University of the Ryukyus, Okinawa, Japan

Introduction

Infections today are caused by mechanisms different from those of past infectiosn. And, the time until disease onset also tends to increase. These diseases definitely show a new trend different from the diseases seen in the past. One of the causes is considered to be environmental pollution together with the generation of various types of free radicals such as the activated oxygen species. To effectively eliminate these free radicals that have adverse effects on the body, a group of compounds called antioxidants are attracting a great deal of attention recently. These substances included three types; substances that directly remove free radicals in a scavenge manner, substances that promote the activities of freeradical-eliminating enzymes called SOD, and lastly SOD-like compounds. As for the anti-oxidation effect of EM-X, recent studies have confirmed clearly that it directly remove bad types of free radicals. In this presentation, the results of research on the components of EM-X and the nature of its mechanism of action, including those conducted in the past five years, will be presented. We hope to communicate these data to clinician so that they may use this product with confidence.

Research on antioxidant capability and effects of EM-X

Fig. 1 and 2 show the research methods for the studies conducted in collaboration with the Radiation Chemistry Research Center, Shizuoka University and Nuclear Reactor Research Center, Kyoto University. The first experiment using not very strong ? rays and irradiation was conducted for a relatively long duration, and then we studied the effects of irradiation on the double helix structure of super-coil type DNA derived form *E. coli*. In this experiment, electrophoresis was conducted first. From the separated fingerprints, we input the data with an image scanner to find out the proportion of CC type DNA that maintains a double helix structure and OC type DNA that show a broken down structure. From these areas, the proportion of residual CC type DNA was calculated. The results showed that over 90% of CC type DNA remained intact in the presence of EM-X, showing very potent antioxidation effect of EM-X.

ESR measurement and data analysis: the sample was taken out of liquid nitrogen and rapidly returned room temperature. Then the sample was inserted in the cavity and measurement was started. The time immediately after sample was melted was taken as time O, and measurement was started 20 sec later. Seven measurements were made at intervals of 21.5 sec. the ESR spectrum was measured at each time point. The time-related changes were plotted and extrapolated to find the ESP spectral intensity at 1 sec immediately after sample was melted. This value became smaller when EM samples had greater anti-oxidation capability. The intensity of DMPO-OH after the addition of EM material was determined compared to the DMPO-OH value before addition of EM.

In the other study, free radicals were generated with very strong irradiation, with simultaneous binding of DNOP and OH. We studied how much OH was eliminated by EM-X during this process. Table 1 shows the data of residual CC type DNA as an indication of the rate of radiation protection. From the data of CC type and OC type DNA obtained in this study, it is clear that a large proportion of CC type DNA, which is the genetic filament that has not received radiation damage, remain intact.

In this study, EM-X showed a DNA cleavage rate of 8.93% at the highest, suggesting that cleavage of the double helix was almost completely suppressed. This research also showed clearly a protective effect against radiation. However, the significance of the present study lies in the data that the strong anti-oxidation capability of EM-X against OH radicals results in strong prevention against DNA cleavage.

Fig. 3 shows the results of a study irradiated with very strong ? rays using a nuclear reaction at Kyoto University. DNOP, a substance instrument (ESR). The results clearly showed a high Oh eliminating rate in the presence of EM-X. These results suggest that regardless of the SOD system, which is the radicals and superoxide anion radical-

like free radicals. Since it is known that very strong ? rays produce large quantities of HO radicals with a short period of irradiation, these results suggest that EM-X has a very strong action in capturing OH radicals.

2. μ] of sample at various dilutions (neat, or 1x, 10, or 100x dilution) was added to 4 μ of plasmid pUC 18DNA (0.05 μ g/ μ l in SSC buffer) in a mixrotube

+

During reaction, 4 µ of SSC buffer was added to obtain NaCl=0.15 M and Na-citrate=0.05 M

NaCl, Na₃citrate, HCl, Tris-acetate, and EDTA were special reagent grade form Wako Chemicals Industry. Agarose was purchased from Donin Kagaku, and ethydium bromide form Sigma. Plasmid pUC18 DNA (2686 bp, $16x10^6$ dalton) was prepared form *E. Coli*. The water used in the experiment was purified by MilliQTM ultra-pure water maker (Millipore). TAE buffer ([Tris-acetate] = $8.0x10^{-2}$ M, [EDTA]= $2.0x10^{-3}$ M) was used in agarose gel electrophoresis.

Mixture was mixed by votexing and centritugation. [Sample] = 1/5 (20%), 1/50 (2%), or 1.500 (0.2%) of neat solution, DNA = $0.02 \mu g/\mu l$, total volume = $10 \mu l$



Fig. 1 Methods of Testing Hydroxy Radical Eliminating Capacity Using DNA Research facility: Radiation Chemistry Center, Shizuoka University Department of Science



Research on the Antioxidant Components of EM-X and the Mechanisms of Action

Sample was irradiated uniformly with cobalt 60 ? rays at liquid nitrogen temperature (-196oC). Radiation dose= 385 Gy/min x 9 min = 3456 Gy

Fig. 2. Hydroxy Radical Eliminating Capability Using ESR

Research facility: Nuclear Reactor Research Center, Kyoto University and Radiation Chemistry Center, Shizuoka University

Table I CC Type DNA and DNA Cleavage Rate				
Dilution	IF00203	IFO0203	IF00707	IF00707
	%residual CC	% DNA cleavage	% residual cc	% DNA cleavage
1/5	75.14	33.34	73.16	36.00
1/50	35.19	86.93	34.51	87.85
1/500	25.42	100.04	24.94	100.69
00	25.45	100.00	25.45	100.00
Dilution	EM-ALP	EM-XALP	EM-ALP	EM-XALP
	% residual cc	% DNA cleavage	% residual cc	% DNA cleavage
1/5	88.66	17.90	93.34	8.93
1/50	68.11	42.78	75.16	33.33
1/500	46.24	72.12	42.80	76.73
00	25.45	100.00	25.45	100.00
Dilution	Phototrophic	Phototrophic	Phototrophic	Phototrophic
	Bacteria 1	Bacteria 1	Bacteria 2	Bacteria 2
	% residual cc	% DNA cleavage	% residual cc	% DNA cleavage
1/5	73.20	37.29	67.61	41.30
1/50	58.02	56.31	46.98	67.61
1/500	34.25	88.20	22.28	99.11
00	25.45	100.00	25.45	100.00

Table 1 CC Type DNA and DNA Cleavage Ratte

Analyzed by: Radiation Chemistry Center, Shizuoka University Department of Science.

Table 2 shows the OH elimination capabilities of EM-X and the component bacteria of the raw material EM-1; lactobacilli and phototrophic bacteria. This experiment used Japanese green tea as control, which has been shown to possess catechin, the substance known to have the highest antioxidation action. The results show that both lactobacilli and phototrophic bacteria possess relatively high radical eliminating capacity. From the IC50 (biological statistical system), the radical-capturing effect of EM-X can be evaluated as being close to that of Japanese tea, which is known to be the most potent substances among foods.

		Sample	Conc. (%)	Elimination (%)
		Control	0	100
Irrad. Temp:	-196 ?	- IFO0302	11.25	48.2
Dose rate:	384 Gy/min		22.50	39.4
Irrad. Time:	9 min		45.00	38.1
Irrad. Dose:	3456 Gy	IFO0707	11.25	44.2
[DMPO] = 0.02 M	-		22.50	39.7
			45.0	37.2
		EM-X APL	11.25	60.6
			22.50	57.9
			45.0	45.7
		EM-X APLX	11.25	56.3
			22.51	49.4
			45.0	44.6
		Phototrophic	11.25	58.8
			22.52	53.2
		Enobi 4	11.25	57.8
			22.50	51.4
			45.0	44.8

Sample concentration (%)

Fig. 3 Evaluation of OH Elimination CapabilityDate of irradiation:8/2/2001Date of measurement:8/5/2001

In this study, for example, IC50 = 0.1 signifies that DNA cleavage is suppressed by 50% when the reaction mixture contains 0.1 ml of the sample. This study suggests that EM-X possesses antioxidation capability close to that of Japanese tea.

Table 2 Results of IC50 (biological test evaluation system)				
	IC50 (dilution from neat solution			
Sample	DNA	ESR		
Green tea	0.0015	0.26		
EM-X ALP X	0.007	0.37		
EM-X ALP	0.01	-		
Phototrophic bacteria (7/26 DNA test) (1)	0.04	0.3		
Phototrophic bacteria (6/28 DNA test) (2)	0.08	0.1		
Phototrophic bacteria (6/28 NDA test)	0.08	0.08		
IFO0203	0.09	-		
IFO0707	0.1	-		
Enobi 5	0.12	-		
Enobi 4	0.55	0.3		
CO515B8 (Shiitake mushroom mycelia)	>1	-		

Research on the Antioxidant Components of EM-X and the Mechanisms of Action

Analyzed by: Nuclear Reactor Research Center, Kyoto University and Radiation Chemistry Center, Shizouka University

Research on Components of EM-X

Results and consideration

Next, the results of research on the components of EM-X will be reported. These studies were conducted form 1996 to 1997 in collaboration with College of Science and Technology at Nihon University, Higa Laboratory at the University of the Ryukyus, Toray Research Center, Inc. and JEOL Ltd. These studies were conducted using the same methods used for detecting natural chemicals.

The results are shown in table 3. EM-X has the characteristic that it possesses high polarity similar to water, and the components are dissolved in an aqueous state. The study used a method that solated or fractionated the components according to polarity. First, normal hexane, solvent with low polarity was mixed with EM-X at equal volumes and shaken in a separating funnel for 30 min. the low polarity compounds in EM-X were transferred to the solvent. This procedure was repeated three times to take variance into consideration and the three solvents were mixed together. The solvent was purified with various chromatographics. The fraction of each compound at high purity was further isolated by HPLC, and single compounds were obtained. The same procedures were conducted with the high and moderate polarity fractions. We were able to isolate many fractions and crystals. The chemical structures of the substances obtained were determined by NMR to identify these substances.

From the relatively high polarity fraction, a vitamin B group was identified. In this vitamin group, B1, 2 and 12 were detected.

From the moderate polarity fraction, quercetin-3-O-glycopyranoside (quercitrin) and quercetin (flavonoid), a group of vitamin P, were detected. In addition, saponin, a triterpene glycoside with high polarity, was also detected as racemic

compounds. Applying 1-butanol, a solvent with thigh polarity, again to this fraction, further oligosaccharides such as rhaffinose and simple monosaccharides such as glucose were also detected.

By re-extracting the low polarity fraction with moderate and high polarity solvents, vitamin E as a mixture of a, β , ?, and s racemic forms was detected. During the process of chemical structure determination using NMR and estimateion by carbon and hydrogen atomic coupling, it was judged that the racemic compounds were not composed of single compounds but contained a mixture of racemic structure. Next, we succeeded to identify this mixture using a mass analytical instrument.

The low polarity fraction has the oil soluble property and so-?-olizanol and carotene do. By isolation and purification, we detected carotene derived form the phototrophic bacteria. All these substances are antioxidants.

Low polarity compound	Medium polarity compound	High polarity compound
Vitamin E racemic bodies {a, ß, ?, s mixture}: this compound implies that vitamin E is a type.	Quercetin compounds: Quercetin -3-O-glycopyranoside, Quercetin -3-O-ramnopyranoside Campherol Campherol glucoside (2 types) (These compounds are flavonoid dyes).	Saccharides: raffinose, glucose, and mannan Oligosacchrides were also detected. These are relatively strong anti- oxidation compounds Trehalose, Phloricide (2-O- a-galatosyglycerol)
?-olizanol Ubiquinone compound (many Isomers of ubiquinone exist).	Triterpene-like compounds Saponin with a 20s-protopnexatriol Structure (from the sugar binding site, determined to be zinsenoside-RO by and MS.)	NAD (nicotinamide adenine denucleotide and FAD (flavine adenine denucleotide): substances that promote NMP differentiation and assimilation of life. Cyanocobalamin with relatively large MN and its isomers were also detected. (These were novel compounds).
Carotene dyes and Phototrophic bacteria-derived dyes including lycopene: strong antioxidation effects	Vitamin C (reductive from is more abundant than oxidative form)	Inositol, L-aspagine acid L-alanine Analytical results also showed other amino acids.
Trace lipids: Phosphophatidyl Choline Glycerin ester glucoside	Nicotinic acid, Coenzymes(derived from nicotinic acid), NMA, etc	Other polyphenols

Table 3. Study of Components of EM-X

Study facilities: University of the Ryukyus, Nihon University, Toray Research Center, Inc., and JEOL Ltd, 1998 – 1999

In this study, other chemical compounds were also detected, but the major substances for which chemical structures have been identified are shown.

Table 4 shows the substances contained in the high polarity fraction. These substances are derived from coenzymes such as nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD) and flavine adenine dinucleotide (FAD).

As shown here, compounds have been isolated and purified from the high polarity fraction of EM-X and their structures had been identified. Many of the compounds have already been proved to be antioxidants, but substances with unknown functions were also isolated.

Table 5 shown amino acid groups also detected in the high polarity fraction.

All the data reported above were obtained in the earlier research of organic compound in EM-X

Table 4 Compounds Isolated and Purified from High Polarity Fraction

- 1. Cyanocobalamin
- 2. Constitutional isomer of Cyanocobalamin
- 3. Triterpenoid compound
- 4. Saponigen (aglycon: saccharide unbound unclear substance of saponin)
- 5. β-sitosterol
- 6. Constitutional isomer of β-sitosterol
- 7. Ploysaccharide (glucomannan) suggested to bind with 1-6-glucoside derived from yeasts
- 8. Polysaccharide compound
- 9. Polyphenols
- 10. Phenylpropatides
- 11. 2,4-methylenechlorotanol ferulic ester
- 12. Metallic organic ismores



Table 6 shows the mineral contents of EM-X. these are the first data from fluorescent X-ray analysis and plasma chemiluminescence analytical device of Toray Research Center, Inc. The aim of this study was to investigate what kinds of minerals are present in EM-X. Forty kinds of minerals were detected at ng level. These data confirmed that EM-X contained many types of minerals. The values in Table 6 are shown in ng.

Table 6 Analysis of Mineral Components in EM-X									
L1	В	Na	Mg	Al	Si	Р	Κ	Ca	Ti
2.5	1000	2000	10	10	10	7000	5000	2000	1
V	Cr	Mb	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge
5	5	200	50	5	5	100	5	30	30
Se	Sr	Zr	Nb	Mo	Ag	Cd	In	Sh	Sb
25	10	10	3	5	7.5	1	40	15	10
Te	Ba	La	Ce	Та	W	Pt	Au	Pb	Bi
25	5	7.5	30	30	250	10	7.5	10	20

Analyzed by: Toray Research Center, Inc.

Qualitative and quantitative results (ng/ml)

Table 7 shows the analytical results of the components of EM-X conducted in collaboration with Institutes of Food Hygiene, Japan Food Hygiene Association, according to methods for food analysis. The results showed a calorie level of 7 kcal, water content of 98.1 g, protein of 0.1 g, carbohydrate of 1.7 g, ash content of 0.1 g, sodium of 14 mg all per 100 g of sample. These data are the nutritional components analytical items for 100 g of EM-X.

Table 7 Results of Nutritional Analysis of EM-X				
Test item	Test results	Analytical method		
Calorie	7 Kcal			
Water content	98.1 g	Vacuum heat desiccation		
Protein	0.1	Kjeldahl Method		
Lipid	0 g	Ether extraction		
Dietary	0 g	Prosky method		
Ash content	0.1 g	Ashing method		
Sodium	14 mg	Atomic absorption method		
Iron	0.8 ppm	Atomic absorption method		
Zinc	0.2 ppm	Atomic absorption method		
Copper	Undetectable	Atomic absorption method		
Iodine	Undetectable	HPLC		
Serine	Undetectable	Spectrophotofluorimetry		
A 1 11 T				

Analyzed by: Japanese Food Hygiene Associated Research Institute Remarsk:

Calorie = protein x 4 +lipid x 9 +carbohydrates x 4

Carbohydrate = 100 - (water + protein + lipid + as + dietary fiber)

Table 8 shows the results of component analysis for the items such as calcium, phosphrous, potassium, magnesium, retinol, ß-carotene, vitamin A effect, vitamin B complex (B1, B2, B6, and B12), vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin K, and folic acid. The analytical methods were according to the JIS or JAS standards. Other analysis included iron, zinc, copper, iodine, selenium, and ?-olizanol. The results are as shown in the Table 8. Since these methods were based on food components, the special carotene derived from phototrophic bacteria was technically difficult to analyze. Selenium was detected qualitatively but the concentration was below the detection limit for food, so it is recorded as not detected. For mineral analysis, we have a different set of data from Toray Research Center, which will be presented later.

Table 9 shows the results of qualitative and quantitative analysis according to food standards conducted at Toray research center. These results were from ICP-MS and atomic absorption analysis. The analytical results are highly reliable. In this set of data, selenium and other elements that were not clearly shown in previous analysis were clearly detected here. These minerals can be judge to have great effect on the antioxidant action. The number of minerals detected this time was only approximately half of the 40 types analyzed previously. This is because this analysis was based on food analytical methods. It is noteworthy that most of these minerals are considered to be very important for the biological activities of living organisms.

Analytical item	Analytical result	Analytical method
Calcium	1 mg	Atomic absorption
Phosphorous	4 mg	Molybdovanadate method
Potassium	16 mg	Atomic absorption
Magnesium	2 mg	Atomic absorption
Retinol	0 µg	HPLC method
β-carotene	0 μg	HPLC method
Vitamin B1	44 mg	HPLC method
Vitamin B2	54 mg	HPLC method
Vitamin B6	3.94 mg	Microbiology assay
Vitamin B12	59 µg	Microbiology assay
Vitamin C	0 mg	HPLC method
Vitamin D	50 IU	HPLC method
Vitamin E	7.3 mg	HPLC method
Vitamin K	0 µg	HPLC method
Folic acid	2.77 μg	Microbiological assay

Table 8. Components Analysis of EM-X

Analyzed by: Japanese Food Hygiene Associated Research Institute

(Values for 100 g of sample)

Remark:

Calorie = protein x 4 + lipid x 9 + carbohydrates x

Carbohydrate = 100 - (water + protein + lipid + ash + dietary fiber)

Element	Analytical	Element	Analytical	Element
	Table 9. Detai	led Analytical Res	ults of Mineral Conte	nts of EM -X

Element	Analytical	Element	Analytical	Element	Analytica
	result		result		result
Li	+	Y	-	Ho	-
Be	-	Zr	-	Er	-
В	++	NB	-	Tm	-
Ma	++++	Mo	+	Yb	-
Mg	++++	Ru	-	Lu	-
Al	++	Rh	-	Hf	-
Si	+++	Pb	-	Та	-
K	++++	Ag	-	W	-
Ca	++++	Cd	-	Re	-
Sc	-	In	-	Ir	-
Ti	-	Sn	-	Pt	-
V	-	Sb	-	Au	-
Cr	+	Те	-	Hg	-
Mn	+++	Ι	+++	Ti	-
Fe	++	Cs	-	Pb	-
Co	-	Ba	+	Bi	-
Ni	+	La	-	Th	-
Cu	+	Ce	-	U	-
Zn	++	Pr	-	Р	+++
Ga	-	Nd	-		
Ge	-	Sm	-		
As	+	Eu	-		
Se	-	Gd	-		
Rb	+++	Tb	-		
Sr	+++	Dy	-		
Mg	81	Zn	0.11		
Р	120	Na	46		
Ca	8.9	K	190		
Fe	0.06	Ι	0.71		
Cu	0.02	Se	0.001		

Analyzed by: Toray Research Center, Inc. Quantitative results: values in μ b/ml Qualitative test:

Fig. 4 attempts to explain the antioxidant action of the minerals. They are the most important content for EM-X. The fundamental nature of antioxidant effect has been presumud to be the mineral complex. As one of the facts supporting this, Sato, et al. have proved that the suppression of rusting is related to metal complex, and a patent has been obtained based on this finding. In the living body, also metal complexes are known to be related to the inhibition of oxidation.



Our hypothesis is as follows. In the case that blood flow in the blood vessels is impaired by some reason, when the flow is reusmed, a large quantity of SOD is generated. This triggers the production of reactive-oxygen species with even higher activities, which destroy the cell membrane. In this case, SOD is a protein, its direct administration into the body will result in the compound being decomposed by proteolytic enzymes. To avoid the action of proteolytic enzymes, various methods have been used to preserve SOD activity such as chemical treatment or enclosing in lipid membranes. Since SOD is an enzyme containing metal, small metal complexes that possess the same action as SOD have been proposed. These small metallo-complexes have been confirmed to have the ability to cleave superoxide anions into oxygen molecule while the other protein is reduced to hydrogen peroxide. By receiving the redox electron, the metallocomplexes are expected to become a low-oxidized state. The metal ion that now exists in a low-oxidized state further reacts with superoxide anions. It returns to its original oxidized state by donating one electron to the superoxide anions which turn to superoxide anions with extra electron. Within the reaction system, the superoxide anions with extra electron react with hydrogen anions and become hydrogen peroxide. These reactions repeat catalytically as long as superoxide anions are present. In other words, the superoxide anions are finally eliminated.

The latest research on components has been presented in the 2001 research report, where amino acid analysis was conducted in detail. Table 10 shows a portion of the component analysis. The analytical results for amino acids are similar to the last analysis, except that the quantitative values shown are higher than the previous values. This is because the EM-X sample was concentrated 4 times, thus increasing the analytical sensitivity.

Table 11 shows the analysis of amino acids, showing high contents of amino acids derived from yeast nucleic acid and components derived from seaweed.

The amino acid content is high, especially, praline is found to be the predominant component in heated EM-X products. This is considered to be component derived from DNA as a result of self-digestion of yeasts. Furthermore, alginine is thought to be a substance derived from seaweed. In 18 kinds of nutrients, almost all essential amino acids are present. This factor, in addition to the antioxidation capability, is highly significant.

From the research of component analysis and mechanisms, new knowledge was found, especially from the detection of amino acids. As already shown in basic research in the past, new research from the viewpoint of nutrition-improving fuctional foods confirmed that EM-X "contains a high metal content" and "contains a relatively large quantity of vitamins and physiologically active substances such as FAD". Furthermore, the new research also demonstrated that these compounds are all antioxidants. It is perceivable that these diverse components interact synergistically to exhibit strong antioxidant actions.

Table 11. Results of Amino Acid Quantitative Analysis				
Mg/100 g	Heat-	Non-heat-	Refined	
	Treated EM-X	Treated EM-X	EM-X	
Isoleucine	20	8	9	
Leucine	30	11	13	
Lysine	44	17	19	
Methionine	2	1	1	
Cystine	1	1	1	
Phenylalanine	21	8	10	
Tyrosine	35	14	16	
Threonine	29	11	13	
Tryptophan	15	5	7	
Valine	22	9	10	
Histidine	14	5	6	
Alginine	22	9	10	
Alanine	19	8	9	
Asparaginic	4	1	1	
acid				
Glutamic	15	8	9	
acid				
Glycine	50	19	22	
Proline	76	28	33	
Serine	9	4	4	
Asparagines	-	-	-	
Glutamine	-	-		

Analytical methods: Amino acid autoanalyzer Analyzed by: Japanese Food Hygiene Association Research Institute

However, the research conducted in Shizuoka University strongly suggests that besides the antioxidant effect mentioned above, EM-X also has other roles. For example, when hydrogen peroxide, one type of activated oxygen species, is synthesized in the body, it reacts with trace metals such as iron ion or its complex to generate hydroxyl radicals. Since hydroxyl radical possesses as strong oxidizing capability for various substances, it might "inhibit the proliferation of cancer cells or kill the cancer cells". The <u>metal-hydrogen peroxide complex/hydroxyl</u> radicals are thought to slip between the base pairs of the double strands of DNA and bind strongly there, a process called intercalation. Then the metals ion portion reacts with oxygen molecule to produce activated oxygen species, cleaving the DNA. Depending on the structure of the complex, "it may occupy the space of the gap formed by twisting of the DNA double strands".

In fig. 5 the presmud structure of the complex is shown as reference. This kind of complex is capable of entering the space of this gap here of the DNA double strands. In the DNA structure, there are alternating large gaps and small gaps. Some complexes may wind round the gap, while complexes with different structures may fit into the gap and bind with the DNA. The metallic ion of each complex then reacts with oxygen molecule, forming activated oxygen species to cleave the DNA. Or, they may form grouping to change the overall structure of the DNA, rending the DNA of cancer cells impossible to replicate. EM-X has been proved to contain metal complexes. We are in the process of determining the structural formulae of these complexes.

The mechanism of the antioxidant effect of EM-X was more clearly elucidated in the present radiation chemical research. Of course, based on the research results so far, a clear antioxidant effect fro nutritional elements is also essential for EM-X.

Fig. 5. Estimated Structures of Oxygen-activating Metal Complexes of EM-X

Conclusion

The research on EM-X has continued fro m1997 to 2001. In this presentation, a part of the results are summarized. The characteristics of EM-X can be summarized as shown below. In addition, our research can also be categorized into tow parts.

A. Antioxidant action

1. The antioxidants in EMX are substances derived from the raw materials of plants, seaweed and rice bran; substances derived from the fermentation of various microorganisms (EM-!); and substances derived from secretions of the microorganisms.

2. The components derived from plants include saponin (a glucoside of triterpene), flavonoid, and ?-olizanol.

3. Besides the above substances, vitamins were detected.

The above substance directly eliminate free radicals, and promote the action of free radical elimination of SOD by donating electrons to SOD.

B. New research finding

1. In radiation experiments in which free radicals are generated in a large amount, when DNA derived from E. coli was irradiated by strong ? rays generated from a nuclear reactor, the residual non-destroyed gene signals in the presence of EM-X, and gene destruction was inhibited by 90%.

2. EM-X was potent in removing OH radicals, clearly showing antioxidant capability as a scavenger.

3. In EM-X, the minerals consist of a relatively large number of complex forms. These minerals complexes are associated with selective formation of strong free radicals against cancer cells, which results in damage of cancer cells. This was proved by the experiment of irradiating *E. coli* super-coil type DNA with relatively weak ? rays, in which a large quantity of CC type DNA remained intact (gene destruction inhibiting gene). If irradiation is conducted under the presence of large quantities of soluble metals, a large quantity of free radicals is produced, resulting in an opposite effect. However, DNA is not destroyed in EM-X treated group. This may be due to the following; even the presence of metallic ions, metallic organic complexes that are more potent in action bind with specific sites of the DNA, or there is selective action form protein binding.

Finally, we are now examining the feasibility to generate the data of a clinical trial entitled "Metabolism and safety of healthy subjects given EM-X" within 2 years.